RNA Committee Announcements and Updates

Neighborhood Design Guidelines

Please help shape Roosevelt’s future! We need your feedback about our Neighborhood Design Guidelines in the next 2 weeks, before the RNA sends it forward to the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Ordinance process. At this time comments are very welcome and appreciated! Please contact: Jay Lazerwitz, jay@artandarch.net, to provide feedback. Visit www.rooseveltseattle.org for the updated draft of the 2015 Roosevelt Design Guidelines.

Fundraising & Grants

The Roosevelt Business Group will apply for two grants in February to assist with funding the Weedin Place Project. The Neighborhood Park and Street Fund and the Department of Neighborhoods Small and Simple Grant, if awarded, would pay for landscaping and signage at Weedin Place. A Fundraiser will begin this year for the iconic sculpture that will be located at the gateway site. There may be opportunity for neighbors and businesses to purchase pavers or plaques with their names engraved to be placed on site. More details of this fundraising activity to come. For more information please contact Katie Wood, wood.kd2@gmail.com.

Communication Committee

The RNA is looking to fill our advertising volunteer position for The Roosie. Duties: Communicate with local businesses regarding advertising in The Roosie. Send reminders to past advertisers, answer advertising questions regarding size, cost, format, etc. The advertising volunteer will work closely with the editor of The Roosie to produce 9 issues per year. The Roosie is delivered to over 2,000 homes and businesses. Please contact Laura Bernstein, roosie@rooseveltseattle.org, to learn more.

RNA General Meeting: Tuesday, February 24, 2015
6:30 pm Social, 7:00 - 8:30 pm Presentation
Roosevelt Repaving Project updates
CCA, Calvary Christian Assembly,
Roosevelt Way NE & NE 68th St. - east entrance.

RNA General Meetings are the fourth Tuesday of each month. Next Meeting: March 24, 2015

Two Streams Converge - 829 NE 67th - George Washington and Jennie Rawles
by Holly Wade Matter

At the time of the 1910 federal census, George Washington and Jennie E. Rawles were one of three African American households in enumeration district 188 – the area spanning Weedin Place to 15th Avenue NE, NE 62nd Street to NE 70th Street, that formed the heart of the neighborhood we now call Roosevelt. Widowed, they married each other late in life – George was 62 and Jennie 55. Two streams of migration merged in their marriage, two lives of contrasting circumstance and experience.

George Washington Rawles (in various records his surname appears as Rawls, Ralls, and Rowels) was born into slavery in South Carolina, May of 1846. He served in the Confederate army as a private in the Seventh Battalion, Mississippi Infantry. He married his first wife, Jane Jordan, in 1867, and farmed in Chester County, South Carolina, at least

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through 1880. The 1885 Kansas Census found George, Jane, and their five surviving children in Ellinwood, Kansas, where George worked as a laborer. By 1892, the family had moved again, to Leadville, Colorado, where George worked as a general laborer and hod carrier.

By the time of the 1900 census, only two of George and Jane’s nine children were still living. Daughter Mary, divorced, and her two daughters shared George and Jane’s household in Leadville. Daughter Mattie, who had married James H. Allen and begun a family of her own, lived several houses down the street.

Jennie E. Carter was born in Canada in 1853. Her Virginia-born parents most likely escaped slavery via the Underground Railroad. Jennie married Thomas A. York, a barber, in 1877. Thomas, also born in Canada, had moved with his family to Ypsilanti, Michigan - a major stop on the Underground Railroad - in the late 1850’s. Thomas’s older brothers, David and George, had served in the Union army as privates in Company B, 1st Infantry Colored Regiment Michigan.

By the time of the 1900 Census, Thomas, Jennie, and their three daughters had moved from Ypsilanti to Indianapolis. Frances and Hattie, the two oldest girls, worked as servants. On Christmas Eve, 1900, Francis married Henry M. Terry.

With perhaps more urgency than any other group, African Americans were drawn to Seattle in hopes of a better life. Unlike the South (and neighboring Oregon), Washington State had no segregationist legislation. However, the comparative civil and political freedom was offset by the lack of economic opportunities. Labor unions, for example, excluded African Americans. Skilled tradesmen found themselves limited to jobs in service, as barbers, bootblacks, and porters. Women found employment as cooks, maids, and (non-union) laundresses.

Jennie, widowed, came from Indianapolis in late 1902 or early 1903 with Hattie, and Frances and Henry. Henry, a bricklayer, was able to practice his craft in Seattle. Jennie and Hattie found work as cooks. By 1903, George and Jane Rawles had moved to Seattle and were living in the house at 829 NE 67th. Mattie and James Allen lived nearby at 1007 NE 68th. George continued to work as a laborer.
RNA Committee Announcements and Updates
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Roosevelt Business Group

The RBG meets each month on the morning of the first Wednesday. Upcoming meetings February 4th at 8:30 am, at East West Bookshop; March 4th at 8:30 am, at Evolve Salon; April 1st at 8:30 am, at Ten Thousand Villages.

Contact Kmbris Bond, RBG Committee Chairperson, with questions or contributions at boardchair.seattle@tenthousandvillages.com.

Topics for February:

- This group will be hearing from SDOT regarding the upcoming planned bicycle and transit improvements scheduled for Roosevelt. Dawn Schellenberg, James Kelly, and Paul Elliott will be available for discussion specific to business input on the topic.
- Update on the Weedin Place gateway project, grants, fundraising and timelines
- Goals and focus for the RBG 2015/2016.

Weedin Place Project: Call to Artists

Exciting news! The Steering committee has obtained the services of Klara Glosova to be the curator for the artist call for the Weedin Place project. Klara is scheduled to post the formal call to artists on February 9th. More information will become available on the rooseveltseattle.org website.

Community Events and Culture Committee

Bull Moose Festival

A committee is forming to plan the 2015 Bull Moose Festival. If you are interested in participating on this committee, contact Rich Trifeletti at seattle@tenthousandvillages.com.

Transportation Committee

The Roosevelt Neighborhood Association Transportation (RNAT) Committee is focusing on four key areas: roads, bikes, parking, and pedestrians. One hot topic is the Roosevelt Way NE Paving Project (www.seattle.gov/transportation/pave_roosevelt.htm). If you would like to volunteer on this committee, please contact Peter James, rnapeter@gmail.com.
RNA’s Sustainability Committee invites you to attend the Freeway Estates Community Orchard Young Fruit-Tree Pruning Workshop

**What:** A seasoned professional pruner discusses different strategies and then prunes the young fruit trees in the Orchard. Test your knowledge and learn new skills! Watch how an expert chooses and creates the design of the fruit tree. When: Saturday, February 7th, 2015 - 10:00am - 11:30am

**Where:** NE 60th St and 6th Ave NE, just south of NE 65th and next to the sound wall on the west side of I-5. Plenty of parking along NE 6th. Nearby buses: 26, 16, 66.

**Who:** Instructor Ingela Wanerstrand has been a professional pruner for 20 years, has a permaculture certification, and teaches numerous workshops. She also teaches in the Horticulture program at Edmonds Community College.

**How much?:** Suggested donation is $12.00 per family. Proceeds benefit the Orchard project.

Let Freeway Estates Community know what other types of workshops you would like to see at the Orchard!

Please visit [freewayestates.org](http://freewayestates.org) for more information.

Contact Ruth Callard at 206-527-4035.

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**Two Streams Converge - 829 NE 67th - George Washington and Jennie Rawles**

His son-in-law, James, worked as a bootblack, janitor, and porter.

Jane Rawles died in December of 1907. In September of 1908, George and Jennie married. They remained at 829 E. 67th until 1912 (the house currently at that address was built in 1913). Along with Francis and Henry Terry, they moved to Tacoma, where they spent their remaining years. George died in 1922, aged 76. Jennie died in 1927, aged 73.

Recommended reading:


*The Forging of a Black Community: Seattle’s Central District from 1870 through the Civil Rights Era*, Quintard Taylor, University of Washington Press, 1994
Seattle Neighborhoods Actively Prepare (SNAP)

In the Puget Sound area, we can experience a variety of disasters from weather-related floods and power outages to single-family fires or a moderate or a major earthquake. We also know that our normal daily lives can be severely disrupted and services we are used to getting (clean water, electricity, natural gas, phone and internet, fire and police response) will be very limited to non-existent. The City of Seattle has created the Seattle Neighborhoods Actively Prepare (SNAP) program to help your neighborhood get organized. There is an online toolkit that provides practical step-by-step instructions on organizing as a neighborhood.

If you want, the Office of Emergency Management can come out to your home and help your neighborhood get organized. SNAP is a simple and flexible process that can be customized to meet the needs of your neighborhood. For more information about SNAP or to schedule a SNAP meeting, call 206-233-5076 or email us at SNAP@seattle.gov.

For more information please visit: http://www.seattle.gov/emergency-management/working-together/seattle-neighborhoods-actively-prepare

Roosevelt Reservoir Update

Excerpt from January 2015, The Roosie: Ever since an early stage proposal for re-development was shared at the October RNA membership meeting there has been a great deal of discussion about the future of the Roosevelt Reservoir site. The RNA Board is establishing a working group to gather information… and to design a community input process about the future use of the site. To join the RNA’s Reservoir working group contact Ellen Stoecker, Board Secretary, at secretary@rooseveltseattle.org.
Dear Roosevelt Neighborhood,

There is a tremendous amount going on in Roosevelt. While that has been the case for years, the efforts that are being put forth now are truly changing the visual landscape of our neighborhood. Big new buildings are going up, long established businesses are moving to new locations and the main corridors are getting makeovers.

Each of these changes has significant consequences for the feel and flow of our Roosevelt. Parking, walking, biking, shopping – everything – is changing forever. It is up to each of us to choose how we embrace or engage with these forces of change. Over the past two years, more and more people are coming forward to the Roosevelt Neighborhood Association through membership and by attending the General Meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Neighbors are getting involved with the RNA through its committees in wonderful ways and in growing numbers. I thank you.

Taking ownership over your neighborhood by getting involved is what makes it a great neighborhood. I thank you not because you are helping me but because this is your neighborhood. So please join us on February 24th for the General Meeting to be held on the third floor of Calvary Christian Assembly to learn more about what is going on with each of the committees and to be involved with the changes that are afoot.

Together, let’s make 2015 a bright and happy year in our Roosevelt Neighborhood.

Dirk Farrell, RNA President

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Engage with your community on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/RooseveltSeattle/
Follow us on Twitter: @roosieseattle

Roosevelt Neighborhood Association (RNA) Purpose Statement:
The principal aims and objectives of the RNA-Seattle are to educate, engage, and empower those living in or in close proximity to the Roosevelt neighborhood of Seattle regarding issues of importance to the neighborhood described in the Roosevelt Neighborhood Plan that was adopted by the Seattle City Council.

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ANNUAL RNA MEMBERSHIP FORM

$_____ Student / Low Income    $20 = Individual          $35 = 2-Person Household    $95 = Business Member

(pay what you can) $_________ Other Tax Deductible Donation

Name(s): ____________________________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________________

Phone Number: ___________________________ Email Address:_________________________

Special Interest: ____________________________________________________________

_____ Yes! I would love to be a Blockhead and help distribute *The Roosie*.

_____ Yes! I would love to place an ad to support *The Roosie*.

Please make check payable to: *The Roosevelt Neighborhood Association* & Mail to: 6910 Roosevelt Way NE, Box #518, 98115